

## Message Text

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11

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR, SP, US

SUBJ: SPANISH BASE NEGOTIATIONS - PRESS ON EVE OF ROUND NINE

SUMMARY: AUGUST 15 EDITION OF SPANISH DAILY "ARRIBA" (VOICE OF NATIONAL MOVEMENT) CARRIES STORY FROM ITS US CORRESPONDENT IN NEW YORK (FELIX ORTEGA) WHICH DETAILS MORE NEARLY THAN HAS BEEN THE CASE TO DATE THE RECENT SPANISH POSITION IN THE NEGOTIATIONS, INCLUDING PROPOSAL THAT ALL MAJOR FACILITIES EXCEPT ROTA BE CLOSED. ARTICLE, WHICH CLEARLY SEEMS TO RELY ON SPANISH SOURCES DESPITE DATELINE, PREDICTS SIGNATURE OF NEW AGREEMENT, PERHAPS BEFORE SEPTEMBER 26, BUT STATES THIS IN CONTEXT OF CLAIM THAT "THE U.S. CAN NOT, AT ANY PRICE, BE ABSENT FROM THE IBERIAN PENINSULA AT THE PRESENT MOMENT." END SUMMARY.

1. SPANISH POSITION IS DESCRIBED AS COMPRISING FOUR POINTS. FIRST IS QUID PACKAGE, WHICH IS DESCRIBED AGAIN AS WITHOUT A SPANISH PRICETAG BUT AS WORTH, AT PRESENT MARKET PRICES, \$2 BILLION, DIVIDED EQUALLY BETWEEN CIVILIAN AND MILITARY PROGRAMS. ONE BILLION FOR ARMS IS DESCRIBED AS MODEST IN  
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COMPARISON WITH REPORTED ISRAELI REQUEST FOR ALMOST

THREE BILLION, AND THAT TO MAINTAIN THEIR PRESENT LEVEL NOT TO MODERNIZE.FURTHER, AUTHOR SUGGESTS BAD INTENTIONS MAY LIE BEHIND SUGGESTIONS THAT THE US-SPANISH RELATIONSHIP IS TO BE DEFINED JUST IN THESE MILITARY TERMS. THE BILLION DOLLARS REQUESTED FOR PRINCIPALLY TECHNOLOGICAL, EDUCATIONAL AND ECOLOGICAL COOPERATION HAS BEEN REQUESTED LARGELY IN THE FORM OF CREDITS AND LOANS -- IN CONTRAST TO THE MILITARY REQUEST.

2. SECOND POINT LISTED IS "RECOGNITION BY CONGRESS OF THE US OBLIGATION", MEANING A GUARANTEE THAT THE QUID PACKAGE, ONCE APPROVED WILL BE FUNDED. FORMULA FOR THIS "RECOGNITION" IS LEFT TO US, BUT "THE LEAST COMPLICATED METHOD WOULD BE A SENATORIAL RESOLUTION (SIC) -LESS COMPLICATED THAN A TREATY AND HAVING PRACTICALLY THE SAME EFFECT." DESCRIBED AS POSSIBLY SUFFICIENT FOR SPAIN IS SOME RECOGNITION BY THE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE GUARANTEEING THE TWO BILLION IN APPROPRIATIONS.

3. THIRD ON LIST IS EVACUATION OF ALL BASES EXCEPT ROTA, DESPITE FACT THAT ZARAGOZA, WITH ITS TRAINING FACILITIES, "IS VITAL FOR US AIR FORCES IN EUROPE." IN SAME VOICE, THIS POSITION IS SAID TO BE NEGOTIABLE.

4. LAST ON LIST IS "RECOGNITION OF THE SPANISH ROLE IN WESTERN DEFENSE," ON WHICH AUTHOR SAYS THERE IS NO SERIOUS ARGUMENT ("THE US IS MOST GENEROUS WHEN MONEY IS NOT INVOLVED"). IN FACT, MILITARY ASSISTANCE AND THE NUMBER OF BASES ARE THE FOCUS OF DISCUSSION, HE CLAIMS.

5. ARTICLE GOES ON TO CLAIM THAT US HAS FINALLY COME TO BELIEVE THAT SPANISH PUBLIC OPINION OPPOSES THE AGREEMENTS IN THEIR PRESENT FORM, BECAUSE SPAIN GIVES AND RISKS ALL WHILE THE US IS OBLIGED TO NOTHING. "THIS SITUATION COULD CHANGE IF, BEING UNABLE TO COMPENSATE MADRID DEFENSIVELY, THE US WERE TO PROVIDE SPAIN WITH THE MEANS TO DEFEND ITSELF."

6. THE FOUR-PART SPANISH POSITION IS DESCRIBED AS "A LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NEGOTIATING POSITION AND THUS SUBJECT TO CHANGE", BUT AT THE SAME TIME AS A POSITION HELD PERSISTENTLY THROUGH RECENT NEGOTIATING ROUNDS TO THE POINT ALMOST OF BEING AN INTRANSIGENT POSITION OF THE SPANISH DELEGATION. STABLER

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